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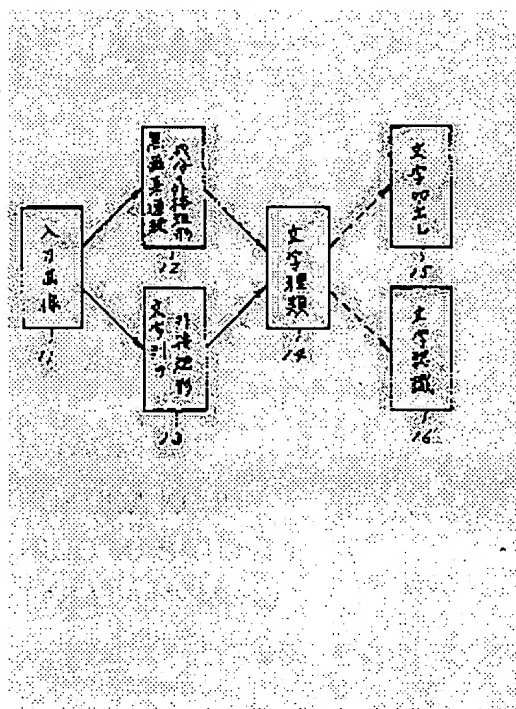
(54) DOCUMENT PICTURE PROCESSING SYSTEM

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To automatically discriminate the kind of font at every area when two kinds of character area are mixed in the same document picture by obtaining the frequency distribution as to the position of a circumscribing rectangle of a black picture element continuous area at every character string.

CONSTITUTION: For a document picture 11 inputted to a frame memory, the circumscribing rectangle 12 of black picture element continuous components and the circumscribing rectangle 13 of character string 13 are obtained. From the two kinds of circumscribing rectangles 12 and 13 thus obtained out of the input picture 11, the kind of font 14 constituting each character string is discriminated. That is, the frequency distribution

as to the position of the circumscribing rectangle of the plural black picture element continuous components that are included in the said rectangle 13, is obtained at every circumscribing rectangle 13 of character string. This frequency distribution varies depending on whether the character string is a Japanese sentence or an English sentence. Therefore, from the distribution frequency, the kind of character can be discriminated. In such a way, in case where two kinds of character area are mixed in one document picture, the kinds of



character are automatically discriminated at every area.

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